BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1954

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

(a) Part time M.O.H.

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector
Charles Jeffries, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.





REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Borough of Tiverton.

For the year ended 31st December, 1954.

II, St. Peter Street,
Tiverton.

June, 1955.

Gentlemen,

other causes, 0.

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,680 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population. Estimated II,480.

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1954 was 3,343.

Rateable Value is £81,726.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £329 - 19 - 3

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Total. Males. Females.

Live (Legitimate Births (161	87	74) Birth Rate:) 14.0 per 1000
Still (Legitimate Births (. 3	I	2) Rate per IOOO Births I8.6 (Total Live and Still
Corrected Birth Rate.	14.2			Births)
Deaths	1 52	72	80) Death Rate: per 1000 13.2
Corrected Death Rate.	6 6 6	4. 0x	• • •	
Deaths from Pregn	ancy and	Childbin	rth. O:	Puerperal Sepsis, 0;

Death rate of Infants under I year of age. (3) All infants per 1000 live births, 18.0

Illegitimate infants under I year, Nil.

Deaths from Measles ... Nil.

- " Whooping Cough ... I
- " Diarrhoca... Nil.

Deaths from Cancer, 25

Uterus		Male	-	Female	I
Breast	-	\$7	A	er	2
Stomach	-	17	I	H	2
Lung	-	83	3	11	200
Other)	#1	1.1	9	Ð	6
Sites)					

This is 6 more than the previous year.

Cancer Notification. A scheme for the Voluntary Notification of this disease is contemplated for the ensuing year. This will be designed to supplement the work of the Regional Cancer Bureau for the South West.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (I) Nursing in the Home. No change.
- (2) Domiciliary Midwifery is carried out by the two district nurses.
- (3) Laboratory Facilities. There are two in the Area The County Laboratory and that connected with the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
- (4) Hospitals. The old Joint Board Isolation Hospital has now been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board for the reception of recovery cases. Belmont Hospital the converted workhouse is now a chronic sick hospital also with part accommodation, in the Exeter & Mid Devon Hospital Group. Infectious cases are sent to Whipton Isolation Hospital where accommodation is always adequate.

Tiverton and District Hospital deals with Surgical, Medical and Maternity cases. There are 50 beds, II of which are devoted to Maternity cases. Bookings are carried out by the County Medical Officer.

An Ante-natal Clinic is held every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. at the hospital.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is now held at the above Hospital twice monthly.

- (5) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
- (6) Ambulance Facilities. No change.
- (7) Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Minor Ailments Clinic Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m. Dr. Proctor-Sims and Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Remedial Exercise Clinic. Wednesdays II - I2 a.m. Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Ophthalmic Clinic. 2nd Tuesdays in alternate months commencing January etc. Dr. Foxwell in attendance. By appointment.

Speech Therapy Clinics. Fortnightly at present. Miss Brown, Speech Therapist, in attendance.

School Dental Service. Emergency treatment Wednesdays 9 - 12.30 a.m. 1.30 - 4 p.m. Other days by appointment.

Mr. Halestrap. Newly appointed.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly on Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

The attendances for 1954 were as follows:-

Total :	infa	ants atter	ndi	ng fo	r	first	t	ime	• • •	• • •	18
tr cl	hild	dren, I to	5 5	year	s,	atter	ndi	ing for	first	time.	18
Number	on	Register	at	end	of	year	***	Mothers		• • •	297
er ·	11	1)	11	11	11	n	-	Infants			81
, tr	12	b)	11	11	ŧř	11		I to 5	years	• • •	216
Number	of	attendand	aes	duri	ng	1954	-	Mothers	3	• • •	1505
ST .	17	17		n		- 11	-	Infants		• • •	1091
17	17	17		OK		11	-	I to 5	years		438

The Mothers and Children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor, and in their houses by the Health Visitor. Simple treatment has been given where considered sufficient, in other cases the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

Home Help Service. Cases dealt with during the past year were:-

Old Age/Chronic T.B. Maternity Others.
Sick

40

I 15

10

Cases are dealt with direct through Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in conjunction with the W.V.S. Some Maternity cases in the area are dealt with direct by the District Nurses.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 52 Tuesdays during the year - Appointments are made by the Secretary, Miss Waterworth, and this works very well.

Number on Register, I/I/54 31/12/54	30I 304
Sessions held by Surgeons 48; After care Sister 28	78
Discharges	330
Admitted to Hospital	25.5
Number of Attendances	1278
Admissions: Adults	290
School Age Infants	20

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loyes's College for the Disabled, in connection with the Clinic, the aim being the complete rehabilitation of the patients.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scabies. Non reported during the year.

Diphtheria Immunization. Vaccination procedure administered by County Council and a Clinic is held for this purpose on each Wednesday. The majority of cases are dealt with by local doctors at their surgeries. The percentage of children immunised continues to be highly satisfactory.

Primary immunizations 159. Reinforcing immunizations 268.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1954.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925).

No action taken.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES

DEATHS

Age Teriod.	Pulm	onary.	· Non⇔Pu	lmonary.	Pulmor	ary.	Non-Pulmonary.		
	M	F	M	F.	M	F	l Ivi	F	
7.	Bank.	-	***	-	-	-	· bes		
IO	I	B1(3)-	-	BOOK .	-	-	-	_	
14	tes	2	-	ands.	-	-	-	-	
20	. ==	2	-	P=3.	•-	2 ·	'-	-	
30	I	I		-	_	-	-	-	
40	est)	I	I	-	' 🗕		_	find.	
50	I	•• :		-	-	-	t _{ent} .	and.	
60	0105	I	-	-	-	I	-	-	
80	-	Tab.	-	-	-	to.	-	-	
NK	_	_		- ;	-	-	-		
Totals	3	7	I	-	-	3	649	-	

Notifiable Diseases.

Age Incidence.

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pnuemonia	Erysipelas
Under I year	-		-	I	-
I to 2	2	-	-	-	836
3 to 4	7	-	way .	-	-
5 to 9	· I 3		-	2	-
IO to 14	- I	-	-	I	-
15 to 24	- 1	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	· · · • · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	- / 1	-		-
40 to 65	" / · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		-	2	••
65 and ower	·	-	· · · - · · ·	- .	I
1 20 OHITHIUMIN	ten en e	-	-	I.	-
Totals	23	649	-	7	I

•	# 7			
Age Period	Measles	Whooping	Acute	Acute
	٠. ،	Cough	Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis
			Paralytic/Non	Infective Post Infective
Under I year	(tris)	3		_
I to 2	I	7	-	
3 to 4 ·	=	9	-	••
5 to 9	-	4	-	•
IO to I4	-	_	-	
I5 to 24	-	••	_	• • •
25 to 40	•	-	-	•
40 to 65	•••	613	-	-
65 and over	-		-	tinds.
Age Unknown	_	-	-	-
Totals	I	23	-	—

Public Health Act, 1925. No action taken.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOITON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st January to 31st December, 1954.

Sanitary Inspector's Office, Town Hall, Tiverton. August 1955.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Tiverton Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my ninth Annual Report in connection with duties carried out during the year 1954.

Towards the end of 1954 the number of applicants on the Housing List had been reduced to 215, of which number 30 were applicants without separate homes.

Slum Clearance. Alderman Ford (Chairman of the Public Health Committee) together with members of the Slum Clearance Sub-Committee completed the inspection of two hundred and forty-four houses during the period under review. Each of these houses has been individually inspected, a very considerable time having been devoted to the purpose.

Meat and Food Inspection. Following my usual practice, I again carried out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection of all animals at the Council's abattoir, a total of 4855 animals. Approximately 5½ tons of meat and offal was condemned as unfit for human consumption. The percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis is little different from the previous year and is low compared with the figures for the country as a whole.

67 Visits were paid to food premises and approximately I6 cwts. of foodstuffs condemned and destroyed.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply.

- (I) The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply. Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Exe) is both filtered and chlorinated. Water from the Warnicombe supply is only chlorinated.
- (3) The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) No contamination during year.
- (5) The number of dwelling houses in the Borough and population supplied from public mains are 3,178 houses, II,123 population. The water is piped in direct to approximately 2,679 houses, whilst approximately 499 houses are supplied by means of stand pipes. These latter houses being situated principally in Courts. A further I65 houses, population 357 are without piped supplies.

RESULTS OF SAMPLING

Source of Supply.	No.of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	
Allers Public Main.	I 3	I 3	-	
Warnicombe Public Main.	12	12	_	
Farms and Other Premises.	5	4	I	
3 samples of the Public	Mains supplies	were obtained a	and submitted	

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MEAT AND FOODS

440 Visits of Inspection were made to the Council's Abattoir for the purpose of Meat Inspection. Ante-mortem is a regular feature of the meat inspection service.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year and gives details of meat and offal condemned as diseased or unsound:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed Number Inspected	547	97	49 6	2702	1013 "
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.:-					
Whole carcases condemned	I	2	12	39	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	197	75	9	202	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	36.2%	79.38%	4.23%	8 .92 %	3.75%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcases condemned		640	200	-	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	IO	· IÒ	-	-	32
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	I.83%	10.3%	_	-	3.16%

Note: Included in the above totals are 7 dressed sheep, received at the Slaughter House.

	BEEF	
No. of Carcases	<u>Disease</u>	Weight
2 1	Septicaemia. Acute Fever.	73 7 524
Parts of		<u>1261</u> lbs.
Carcases	Osteomyelitis.	I3 lbs.
Offal	Verious.	3263 lbs.
No of Carcases	BEEF - Tuberculosis.	
I	Generalised T.B.	4II lbs.
Parts of Carcases	Tuberculosis.	298 lbs.
Offal	T.B.	544 lbs.
Total We	ight of BEEF Condemned. 17 cwts. 2 qrs.	23 lbs. 27 "

	CALVES		
No. of Carcases	Disease	· · · · · ·	Weight
1 0 1	Acute Enteritis and Fever. Umbilical Pyaemia. Septicaemia. Inflammation.	·	78 521 118 82
<u>I</u>	Immature.	:	35 834 lbs.
Parts of Carcases	Oedema. Abscess.		6 13
2 Offal	Various.		19 lbs. 153 lbs.
Total We	eight of VEAL condemned. 7 cwts.	2 qrs.	13 lbs. 13 "

SHEEP

No. of Carcases	<u>Disease</u>	Weight
9 1 3 5 5 1 6 3 1 2 2 1	Septicaemia. Moribund. Deep and Extensive Bruising. Inflammation. Septic Pneumonia. Pyaemia and Ureamia. Entero Toxaemia. Pregnancy Toxaemia. Oedama. (General). Septic Mastitis.	444 46 121 256 263 38 293 205 44 124 143
I 2 I 42	Traumatic Injuries. Emaciation and Diseased. Septic Metritis.	69 80 71 2197 lbs.
Parts of Carcases		
3 7 2 5 2 1 4	Abscesses. Injuries. Inflammation. Pleurisy. Septic Pneumonia. Oedema. Traumatic Injuries.	20 69 30 63 77 5
24 Offal	Various.	349 lbs. 818 lbs.
Total Wei	ght of MUTTON Condemned. I ton. 2 cwts 2 qr:	s. 26 lbs.

	ATTO "	 		7	 	 6 .	
;			PIGS				

)	
No. of Carcases I	Septic Metritis.	290
I	Acute Enteritis. Acute Fever.	135 72
T	Acute Erysipelas.	67
I I I	Acute Peritonitia. Acute Pneumonia.	116 56
<u>I</u>	Pyaemia.	298
		1034 lbs.
Parts I I I I	Peritonitis. Acute Pleurisy. Injury. Acute Fever.	20 80 22 4
4		126 lbs.
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	I84 lbs.

Carcases	PIGS - Tuberculosis.	Weigh	<u>t</u> _
	Nil	-	
Parts			
27	Tuberculosis.	372	lbs.
Offal	T.B.	13	lbs.
Total Wei	ght of PORK Condemned. I3 cwts. 2 qrs. 20 lbs	•	

67 Visits made to shops for the purpose of inspection and condemnation of Unsound Food and premises inspected for contravention of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

The following is a list of food condemned:-

Cr/fd. 11772 1799	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
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MILK REGULATIONS

Licences for the retailing of Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk have been issued to the following:-

Mrs. Richards, Park Street Dairy.

Mr. R. E. Thomas, Slough Dairy.

Mr. W. H. Brealey, Luxton's Dairy, 2A West Ese North.

Mr. P. Hooper, The Fountain Dairy.

FACTORIES IN	DETAIL.		INSPECT	ION.	
Premises	Number on	Inspections	Number Written	There were married to the second to the second seco	oiers
(1) (2)	Register (3)		Notices (5)		
(i)Factories in which Sec. I, 2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	25	2	I	Nil	Nil
(ii)Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority.	88	52	13	Nil	Nil
(iii)Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Author- ity.	1 5	4.	1	Nil	Nil
Totals	128	58	1 5	Nil	Nil

Cases in which defects were found

	Nu	mber of Ca	Number of				
Particulars		defects v	cases in which				
	Found	Remedied	!		prosecutions		
			:	By H.M.	were ins	tituted.	
	7		Inspector	Inspector	:		
(1) (2)	(3.)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	Nil	. 2	Nil	Nil	
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	NYl	Nil	tt	11	
Unreasonable temper-	ካለተ ግ	merci di		*** • T	tr	13	
ature.	Nil	Nil	Nil.	Nil	1)	0)	
Inadequate ventilation.	"	1,	W	",		01	
Ineffective drainage	ts.	1)	87	8)	ft.	11	
of floors.	, t			**			
Sanitary Conveniences (a) insufficient	2	2	11	2		87	
(b) unsuitable or	E.	<i>C</i>		۵.			
defective	2	ž [.]	tr	2	t.	B7	
(c) not separate for							
sexcs .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Other offences against				4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4		**	
the Act (not including	4			- A		0	
offences relating to	4.	. 4))	4	tt	VI	
Outwork)			·				
m - J - 7	10	. 10		IO	91	11	
Total	10	70		70		· ·	

OUTWORK

Number of Out-workers required by Sect. IIO.

Wearing A	pparel (Ma	king, ctc.	. Cleaning	and	washing)	22
Lace, lac	c curtains	and nets.			• • • • • • •	••••• 1 3

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

PART A CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing A.	ct, 1936)
Number of dwe houses demoliation the period	shed	Number of persons displaced
Unfit houses	houses	
(I) Land coloured "pink" 9		10
(2) Land coloured "grey"	Nil	Nil
PART B HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE	AREAS	
	The same and the s	or of
	Houses	Persons displac
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS		
(I) Housing Act, 1936. (a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or	3	8
informal procedure under Section II (b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking	1	ı .
given by the owners under Section II, and still in force		
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	-	-
(2) Housing Act, 1949 (a) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (I) (b) Demolition orders determined and closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2)	Nil Nil	(Free)
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act,	Nil	-
1953. Closing Orders made under Section IO (I)		Number of
		Houses
REPAIRS INFORMAL ACTION		
(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts.		45
ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS		
(5) Public Health Acts Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		Nil
(a) by owners (b) by local authority default of owners		Nil
(6) Housing Act, 1936 Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9,10,11 and 16)		I
(a) by owners (b) by local authority in default of owners.		Nil

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

- 45 Licences were re-issued for the storage of 32,300 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 540 gallons Petroleum Mixtures, and 270 gallons Cellulose Thinners.
- I4 Premises were inspected and advice given on installation of further storage tanks and pumps.
- 2 Licences re-issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1875

26 applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives.

26 Certificates of Registration were granted.

RODENT CONTROL

Mr. Luxon carried out systematic inspections of the various premises in the Borough including 253 agricultural properties and 570 business properties.

A total of 78 treatments were carried out in the area.

The gin trap again proved its worth and has been largely instrumental in keeping the built up area of the Town free from rats.

I regret the delay in the compilation of this report, caused by the heavy amount of clerical work occasioned by Slum Clearance work I remain,